

Kellogg's serves up massive water savings

Kellogg Australia began manufacturing Corn Flakes at its Botany plant in 1928. Today, the site produces 32 breakfast cereals and other food products 24 hours a day, seven days a week.



Despite already enjoying a proven record in water conservation, Kellogg Australia joined the EDC Business Program in late 2002 as part of an ongoing effort to find more ways to save water.

The water savings began for Kellogg's during the development of its wastewater treatment plant in the 1990s, when the company discovered it did not have a clear picture of where and how 2,000 kilolitres of water was being used each day.

According to Kellogg's Environment Manager, Jeremy Bowen, since 2000, conservation measures have saved the plant 1,200 kilolitres of water a day.

Other initiatives implemented by Kellogg's include new trigger nozzles on hoses and more water-efficient cooling systems.

Since joining the EDC Business Program Kellogg's has worked with Sydney Water on a trial to further treat wastewater at the Botany plant for recycling.

“ Since 2000 Kellogg's have saved 1,200 kilolitres of water a day – a 60 per cent reduction! ”



Top right: Kellogg's Environmental Facilitator Paul Webster and Sydney Water's Steven Meleca discuss the many initiatives to reduce water use at the Botany site by 60 per cent

Top left: Filtering of recycled wastewater for use in air pollution control scrubbers has reduced water use by 200kl/d

Above: The use of spray guns has been cost effective to reduce water use.

After collecting extensive flow data, a team was established to identify opportunities for greater water efficiencies.

A new water recycling system was introduced for the air pollution control scrubbers on one of the production lines. The scrubbers previously used drinking water to collect dust and other pollutants from exhaust vents. By using recycled wastewater instead, Kellogg's has cut its water use from 300 kilolitres to 100 kilolitres per day.

The trial has been successful and Kellogg's is now identifying where best to use the recycled wastewater.

“Through our own initiatives and with the assistance of Sydney Water, water management is now a Key Performance Indicator at Kellogg's, which underlines our continued support for conserving this precious resource,” Kellogg's Quality Asia Pacific Director, Kelvin Hawkins said.